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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fourth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Hiroshi **Onuma** (Japan)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017
(*Item 3 (b)*)

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

1. At its 17th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 8)).

2. The Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the Office for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed full support for the programme and emphasized the importance of the role of the Office of the High Representative in monitoring, reporting and implementing the programmes of action, as well as graduation from the least developed country category, and in supporting advocacy and strategic articulation of the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, mobilizing and coordinating international support and resources and building partnerships.

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4. Support was expressed for the upcoming important conferences focusing on the three groups of countries covered by the Office, namely, the Ministerial Conference on New Partnerships for the Development of Productive Capacities in Least Developed Countries, to be held in Cotonou, Benin, in July 2014; the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in Apia in September 2014; and the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, to be held in Vienna in November 2014.

5. Delegations recognized the critical importance of mainstreaming the provisions of the various programmes of action into the work of the United Nations and into the national development and cooperation frameworks of relevant countries.

6. Views were expressed that the Office should focus on its mandated activities and avoid duplication in venturing into those mandated to other United Nations entities, such as activities relating to trade and development.

7. Information was sought on the progress made by the least developed countries in meeting the criteria for graduation from the least developed category since the adoption in 2011 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, and questions were raised on how the prospects of graduation could be expected to develop and improve once the post-2015 development agenda had been adopted.

8. The view was expressed that the deletion from the overall orientation of the programme of reference to (a) mobilizing international support and resources in favour of the three groups of countries to help them to overcome their vulnerabilities and (b) monitoring and coordinating the implementation of specific actions and initiatives with the aim of establishing efficient transit transport systems in landlocked and transit developing countries had reduced the emphasis on important aspects of the work of the Office.

9. Emphasis was placed on the importance of addressing the needs of transit developing countries, in addition to the special needs of landlocked countries, under subprogramme 2.

10. Clarification was sought regarding the formulation of indicator of achievement (a) (i) under subprogramme 1, indicator of achievement (c) (i) under subprogramme 2 and indicator of achievement (a) (i) under subprogramme 3. The view was expressed that such indicators could be considered outputs, as opposed to outcomes, and could possibly foster an unnecessary increase in the number of resolutions.

11. Regarding indicator of achievement (b) under subprogramme 3, the view was expressed that the amount of financial contribution could be a better indicator than the number of development partners, and emphasis was placed on the importance of the quality of the partnerships as well as their quantity.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Subprogramme 1
Least developed countries

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a) (i), replace the words "number of" with the words "reference in".

Subprogramme 2
Landlocked developing countries

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (c) (i), replace the words "number of" with the words "reference in".

Subprogramme 3
Small island developing States

Indicators of achievement

In indicator (a) (i), replace the words "number of" with the words "reference in".

Replace indicator (b) with the following: "Increased number of development partners that pledge support for small island developing States, including through the climate change financing mechanisms, such as the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility and the Climate Investment Funds".